



GRAND HOTEL SAN GEMINI PALAZZO SANTACROCE

1910 · 2021
now more beautiful than ever



GALLERY OF FRESCOES

The Gallery of Frescoes is one of the most characteristic rooms on the main floor. Restored to its former glory after careful refurbishment, the series of frescoes narrating *Jerusalem Delivered* gives guests and visitors the chance to see one of the most important works of Umbrian art from the early eighteenth century. The large murals, featuring "Stories from the poet Tasso", were commissioned in 1739 by Prince Scipione Publicola Santacroce, who in 1722 had taken over the fiefdom and palace of San Gemini from the Orsini family.

After the building was extended, in 1739, Prince Santacroce (who owned one of Bernardo Castello's magnificent illustrated editions of Tasso's epic poem), was inspired by the feats and virtues of the heroes to commission Roman artist Onorato Miserola to paint the frescoes in the Gallery, based on designs provided by the Prince himself. The series of frescoes starts on the eastern wall, which is entirely occupied by a large scene depicting the duel between the Circassian knight Argant and the Christian knight Raymond, as told in Canto VII of *Jerusalem Delivered*, one of the poem's best-known sections, and popular with artists.

The story continues along the western wall, which portrays the meeting between Ismen, the Muslim sorcerer resident at the court of Aladdin, and Suleiman, the ousted sultan of Nicaea who fights to regain the throne only to be killed by Reynold in the final battle between the Egyptians and Christians.

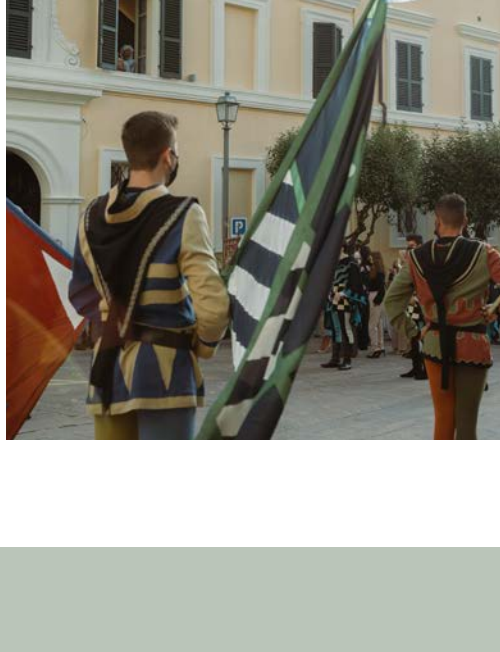
The southern wall of the Gallery, divided into five large pilasters, tells of the most famous episodes from the Cantos XI and XII of *Jerusalem Delivered*: the story of Godfrey of Bouillon and of the fierce Saracen Argant, who was killed by Tancred in a duel. The three panels on the northern wall depict some of the best-known episodes from Cantos XV and XVI, which tell of the end of the love of Armida, the beautiful sorceress who was sent among the crusaders by her uncle Hydrates, the sorcerer of Damascus, to capture as many men as possible for Reynold by distracting them from their mission with her magical arts. Skillfully painted in brightly-coloured gouache, the frescoes reflect the style of Scipione Santacroce, the new Lord of San Gemini, who transformed the historic Orsinian fortress into a noble eighteenth-century residence.



THE PALACE OF THE SANTACROCE PRINCES

Grand Hotel San Gemini is housed in the aristocratic residence of the Santacroce family, an ancient Roman baronial dynasty. By the mid-15th century, the palace already boasted one of the richest collections of antiquities in Rome. The palace was built between 1729 and 1730, by Prince Scipione Publicola Santacroce who in 1722 took over the fiefdom of San Gemini from the Orsini. The palace became the new residence of the Prince, who chose to make his home in the immediate vicinity of the Roman Gate, where he had an elegant noble residence built. One one side, the palace faces Piazza del Duomo, and on the other it overlooks the spectacular valley opening out into the Terni basin. The defining feature of the building's elegant facade is the large portal surmounted by an arched window decorated with a coat of arms, scrolls and festoons. The palace once incorporated the two ancient towers of the surrounding walls of the village, which were remodelled according to the new fashions of the eighteenth century.

On the opposite side, a double-flight spiral staircase linked the palace to the gardens facing the walls.

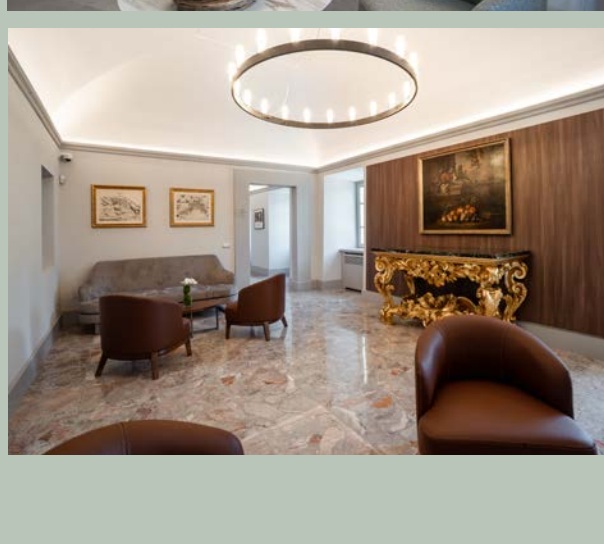


THE GRAND HOTEL

In 1910, the building was redeveloped into an elegant hotel at the behest of the lawyer Carlo Violati, president of the Sangemini mineral water company. Inaugurated on 17 July in the same year, Grand Hotel San Gemini became one of Italy's most exclusive boarding establishments.

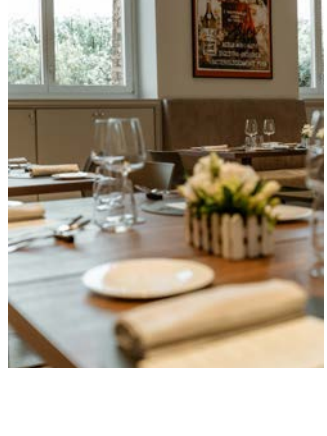
The full restoration, completed in 2021, has returned the hotel to its historic splendour yet also meets the demands and needs of 21st-century tourism. The building's design incorporates innovative features while preserving the artistic heritage intact.

History, art and elegance combine with luxury and technology in a building that also boasts a fine restaurant, a well-stocked wine cellar, several meeting rooms and a swimming pool surrounded by luxuriant greenery.



ACQUAFORTE RESTAURANT

The dining room of Grand Hotel San Gemini is elegant, tastefully decorated and welcoming: the perfect setting is a prelude to the delicious flavours. The restaurant serves a gourmet menu, and guests can also take advantage of a private dining room with just 20 seats, and the terrace with pergola. The hotel also has a charmingly styled lounge bar, where guests can relax and chat in a chic, exclusive and private setting.



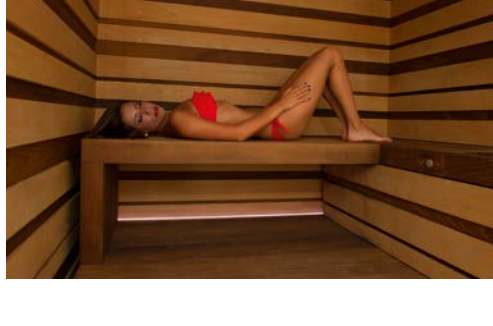
CONVENTION CENTRE

The refurbished hotel, with its three meeting rooms - Tiepolo, Principi di Santacroce and Conti Otello - is ideal for conferences, business meetings and cultural or business events. The rooms are designed to accommodate large or small groups, and can adapt to serve a variety of space, service and cost requirements.

The splendid "Gallery of Frescoes" is the ideal showcase for concerts, conferences, performances and book presentations. Exhibitions by artists and Umbrian celebrities can also be organised to great effect in this elegant and beautiful setting.

WELLNESS CENTRE

The Grand Hotel boasts a welcoming and modern gym, equipped with state of the art machines: the ideal place for sports and fitness lovers who can train in peace and quiet. The hotel's fitness facilities even include a private spa, an intimate hideaway for couples looking to relax and unwind.



GARDENS AND SWIMMING POOL

Guests at Grand Hotel San Gemini can relax in the splendid pool set in the garden: an oasis of tranquillity surrounded by the peaceful sounds and colours of nature.

An ideal location for guests who prefer peace and quiet, and anyone who wants to get away from the hustle and bustle of city life. The hotel offers a range of amenities to make your stay even more enjoyable. The pool is surrounded by a spacious solarium, complete with reclining lounge chairs and beach umbrellas. The perfect place to top up your tan!

Why not take time out with your friends or significant other, and enjoy a delicious drink or tempting snack.



GRAND HOTEL SAN GEMINI PALAZZO SANTACROCE

Piazza Duomo, 4 | San Gemini (TR) | Italy
Reception tel. (+39) 0744.243454
info@grandhotelsangemini.com
www.grandhotelsangemini.com

